

securing Federal benefits; solving tax return problems; and acquiring service records, passports, and military service-connected disability compensation.

I thank Sharon so much for everything that she has done for Ohio's Eighth District. May she enjoy her well-earned retirement.

#### REMEMBERING BRIGADIER GENERAL CHARLES MCGEE

(Ms. PRESSLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of legendary retired Air Force Brigadier General Charles McGee, who peacefully departed on the morning of January 16, 2022. He was 102 years young and one of the last surviving Tuskegee Airmen.

Charles McGee lived a full and beautiful life of bravery and perseverance. He was the embodiment of hope and service.

As a Tuskegee Airman, he made history as one of the first Black military aviators, breaking the color barrier in the armed services during World War II and flying 409 fighter combat missions in three wars.

In addition to his life of service, Mr. McGee created an enduring legacy through the family that he grew. He married the love of his life, Ms. Frances Nelson, in April 1942. The two would go on to be married for more than 50 years.

He is survived by his 3 children, Charlene, Ronald, and Yvonne; 10 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and 1 great-great-grandchild.

Black history is American history, and Charles McGee is an American hero. General McGee's legacy will live on through the pages of our history, the incredible family he created, and the lives he touched, including my own.

Mr. Speaker, to our General, our beloved Papa Gee, I pray that he rests in peace and power, reunited with his love, Frances, with the wind forever at his back and the clearest blue skies ahead.

#### REMEMBERING DWIGHT L. CLEMENTS

(Mr. FORTENBERRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to speak about a great Nebraskan and a great American. His name is Dwight L. Clements. He died last week at 102 years old.

Dwight Clements was born in Elmwood, Nebraska, and he went on to study at the University of Nebraska and got a degree in business.

But this is the interesting part, Mr. Speaker: His education was disrupted by World War II, where he served as an Army combat engineer in France until the war ended in 1945.

After the war, Dwight earned his law degree at the University of Nebraska and then returned to small-town Elmwood to work at the family-owned American Exchange Bank and to join the law firm with his father, Clements Law Firm. He continued in banking and law until he retired in 1985.

But this is the point, Mr. Speaker: Dwight Clements was a humble, dutiful, small-town Nebraskan. But as a member of the Greatest Generation, he served something far larger than himself. Through his sense of duty, selflessness, sacrifice, and patriotism, he represented the kind of person that not only holds Nebraska together but holds America together.

May he rest in peace.

#### RECOGNIZING THORNTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

(Mr. PERLMUTTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Thornton Fire Department in Thornton, Colorado, for earning the 2021 Congressional Fire Services Institute's Masimo Excellence in Fire Service-Based EMS Award, which is given annually to the top fire department in the country.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Thornton Fire Department has gone above and beyond to serve their community. As part of their efforts, they created a Pandemic Response Team that has conducted over 20,000 COVID tests for public employees, senior citizens, first responders, and other community members. When vaccines became available, the Pandemic Response Team expanded their services to administer over 80,000 vaccinations at drive-through sites for city employees and other community members.

The Pandemic Response Team's success led other fire agencies around the country to look to Thornton as a model for how to effectively respond to the challenges of COVID-19.

In a very difficult year for fire and emergency services, the Thornton Fire Department's innovative approach to a rapidly changing public health crisis is something we should all thank them for and model.

#### FACING FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC WEAKNESS

(Mr. CAREY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CAREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as our Nation faces major foreign and domestic challenges brought on by the weakness of the Biden administration.

The border crisis, the botched withdrawal from Afghanistan, the failure to hold China accountable, the green-lighting of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline, and "minor incursion" remarks have sent signals of weakness to our global

adversaries. That weakness is now being tested as Russian aggression threatens the sovereignty of our strategic partners in Ukraine.

This threat to Ukraine is also a threat to democracy. Ukraine needs our support to defend itself. That means sending a strong signal by supporting more military and security equipment, as well as immediate financial, economic, and energy sanctions against the Russians.

At this time, our national sovereignty has been betrayed by the administration. Illegal immigrants and drugs are flowing across the southern border at a record pace.

We must act to secure our borders and support Ukraine. Failure to do so will weaken our national security for years to come.

#### ADDRESSING AMERICA'S FENTANYL CRISIS

(Mr. DEUTCH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, last year, more than 100,000 Americans died from drug overdoses, 60 percent of them from fentanyl. These were mothers and fathers. They were relatives, neighbors, friends. One was my nephew Eli.

Eli died from an unintentional fentanyl overdose, using a legal herbal supplement that had been laced with fentanyl. He would have turned 21 tomorrow.

What happened to Eli is not unique. Young people on social media who think that they are buying Adderall or Xanax are being sold fentanyl-contaminated counterfeits.

It is the responsibility of every Member of Congress to acknowledge that fentanyl is killing our constituents everywhere in America.

We know that the chemicals to develop these drugs originate in China. They are shipped to Mexico and flood our country.

We know that social platforms are capable of changing their algorithms to cut dealers' access to buyers, and we know that fentanyl test strips save lives but remain illegal in too many States.

Mr. Speaker, we can address these challenges. It is how we ensure that our kids, other kids like Eli, aren't lost and don't miss the opportunity to celebrate their 21st birthday.

#### RECOGNIZING TURNER SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH

(Mr. FEENSTRA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FEENSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Turner Syndrome Awareness Month and my constituent, Nicole Cleveland, for bringing attention to this little-known disease.

At birth, Nicole was diagnosed with TS and was told she may never walk.